Attorney Docket No. 18733/00070

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. application of:

Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO,

and Yasushi WATANABE

For:

HOLLOW RACK SHAFT AND

MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF

U.S. Serial No.:

To Be Assigned

Filed:

Concurrently

Group Art Unit:

To Be Assigned

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

BOX PATENT APPLICATION Assistant Director for Patents

P.O. Box 2327

Arlington, VA 22202

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL NO.: EL 794575138 US DATE OF DEPOSIT: NOVEMBER 27, 2001 I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Director for Patents, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA. 22202.

DERRICK T. GORDON

Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee

Signature

November 27, 2001 Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PROPOSED DRAWING CHANGE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

Submitted herewith is one drawing sheet containing Figures 3a, 3b, and 3c, showing the proposed drawing change in red. The proposed change is as follows:

In the upper left-hand corner of the sheet, please remove the bracket, the Japanese character, and the numeral "3" contained within the bracket.